

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TRANSPORTING AND DISPLAYING SEARCH RESULTS AND INFORMATION HIERARCHIES

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A method and system for transporting and displaying search results and information hierarchies provides a powerful tool for implementing Internet search engines, directory displays and interfaces to similar structures. Upon receiving a user request for an information access, binary search result information including quality of match information is downloaded from a server to the user site. The search information is then interpreted and a graphical output is generated. Interpretation at the client-side provides flexibility in presentation and active reorganization of the display. Graphical user interfaces use the local binary search data to provide user reorganization and inspection of the data. A user may navigate through a three-dimensional map organized by regions and categories, a two-dimensional map organized by match quality and/or an enhanced list display that provides local behavior to modify the information display based on the downloaded search data.